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SUBJECT: ANKARA MEDIA REACTION REPORT

FRIDAY, JULY 25, 2003

THIS REPORT WILL PRESENT A TURKISH PRESS SUMMARY UNDER  
THREE THEMES:

HEADLINES  
BRIEFING  
EDITORIAL OPINION

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HEADLINES

#### MASS APPEAL

Powell says U.S. asked for Turkish troops for Iraq -  
Hurriyet  
U.S. growing impatient - Milliyet  
Saddam's men retaliate; three U.S. troops are killed -  
Sabah  
U.S. official thinks Uday committed suicide - Sabah  
Powell to Ankara: Hurry up! - Turkiye  
Wolfowitz admits U.S. did 'stupid things' in Iraq -  
Turkiye  
Gul: Turkish troops to Iraq in exchange for Iraqi  
contracts - Vatan  
Demining attempt by Denktas - Turkiye

#### OPINION MAKERS

U.S. steps up Iraq pressure on Turkey - Cumhuriyet  
Washington doesn't want delay in Turkish decision for  
Iraqi peacekeeping - Zaman Powell proposes NATO  
umbrella for Turkish troops - Yeni Safak  
Bremer welcomes Turkish troops for Iraq - Radikal  
'Last' photos of Uday, Qusay - Zaman  
U.S. Congress says intelligence failure led to 9/11 -  
Zaman  
U.S. House blocks media monopoly bill - Radikal

#### BRIEFING

FM Gul in U.S.: In a joint press conference with  
Foreign Minister Gul, Secretary of State Powell urged  
Ankara to send troops for Iraqi peacekeeping. Powell  
said that the U.S. request for troops was conveyed to  
Ankara by CENTCOM Chairman General Abizaid last week.  
Gul said it would be easier for Turkey to deploy troops  
to Iraq under a NATO umbrella. Secretary Powell also  
asked for Ankara's support for the UN-sponsored Cyprus  
peace plan, and added that an \$8.5 billion loan for  
Turkey would be released following the completion of  
the IMF's fifth review. Dailies report U.S.  
Administration officials as saying that Turkish troops  
could be deployed in any part of Iraq except in the  
north. Commentaries believe Ankara has demanded a  
considerable share in Iraq's rebuilding in exchange for  
a Turkish military contribution to Iraqi security. Gul  
has also demanded a role in the central administration  
in Baghdad, mainly to prevent a prospective Kurdish  
state in Northern Iraq. Powell has given Gul the  
message that the U.S. will not bargain over the issue,  
and will not meet the cost of any troop deployment.  
Dailies report that U.S. officials are uncomfortable  
about Turkish efforts to create the impression that the  
Americans first raised the issue of a Turkish troop  
deployment.

Turkey, U.S. cooperation against PKK: Foreign Minister  
Gul told the parliamentary foreign affairs committee  
that the U.S. has been positive about cooperation with  
Turkey against the PKK/KADEK presence in Northern Iraq.  
The two allies will launch a joint military operation  
against terrorists who don't lay down their arms in  
light of the forthcoming repentance law now before the  
Turkish parliament. The decision to carry out a joint  
operation against the terrorist presence in the region

was taken during CENTCOM Chairman General Abizaid's visit to Ankara last week.

Cyprus: In a letter to the UN Secretary General Annan, Turkish Cypriot leader Denktas offered to help clear landmines deployed near Nicosia. Denktas said such a move would enhance mutual trust. Greek Cypriot leader Papadopoulos welcomed the offer, dailies report.

Banking watchdog warns Uzans: Turkey's banking watchdog, the Banking Regulatory Board (BDDK), has accused the Uzan family of mafia activities and tax evasion. The BDDK said that the Uzan group must pay its debts to account holders of Imarbank before being considered eligible to buy PETKIM, Turkey's state-owned petrochemical industry. Imarbank, owned by the Uzans, was recently taken over by the BDDK because of illicit money transfers to the Uzan family's other companies. In the meantime, the Uzan group was the top bidder (\$605 million) in the PETKIM privatization tender.

#### EDITORIAL OPINION: Iraq/Foreign troops commitments

"Why is it so difficult?"

Ferai Tinc observed in mass appeal Hurriyet (7/25): "The Turkish government still continues its vague stance that it has adopted since the early stages of the Iraq operation. The request for foreign troops to Iraq became public knowledge over a month ago, yet the government is still confused and indecisive instead of formulating a concrete policy on this very important issue. . Sending our troops to Iraq requires a serious decision. That decision must be made. Turkey should either insist on taking action only within an international framework, which I believe is the right thing to do, or agree to send its troops to Iraq as a police force for the occupation. Both options require a decision, but we do not see the government making a case for any of the options. Instead, it is busy trying to bargain."

"Partnership for shame"

Mehmet Ocaktan argued in the Islamist-intellectual Yeni Safak (7/25): "What is the justification for Turkish soldiers going to serve in Iraq, where the people of Iraq are struggling for their salvation. It would be the most shameful act by Turkey if a Turkish military presence is designed to help the murderous gang which takes instructions from the two liars, Bush and Blair. . Nobody should dare to throw Turkey into a new adventure on the pretext of improving Turkish-American relations. If Turkey takes any step to please the occupying force in Iraq, it will not only harm its image in the international community, but will also lose its credibility under international law. . The occupation forces of the US and the UK should leave Iraq and let the UN decide on what to do next. Turkey should then take its place within the peacekeeping force under the UN."

DEUTSCH